

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01872 042213Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----110567 042217Z /64/42

O 041410Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7442
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

S E C R E T BEIRUT 1872

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT SUBJECT LINE)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, PEPR, LE, IS, XF
SUBJECT: MAJOR HADDAD: CONVERSATION WITH KAMAL AL-ASSAD

REF: BEIRUT 1873

1. DURING OUR APRIL 4 CONVERSATION REPORTED REFTEL I ASKED KAMAL AL-ASSAD WHETHER PEOPLE WERE RETURNING TO THE SOUTH. HE SAID THEY WERE BUT IN MUCH SMALLER NUMBERS THAN EXPECTED BECUASE THEY WERE INHIBITED BY MAJOR HADDAD'S RECRUITMENT PROGRAM. HADDAD'S MEN WERE GOING AROUND THE VILLAGES AND TELLING PEOPLE THEY HAD A CHOICE OF ENLISTING IN HIS ARMY OR LEAVING. THIS HAD CREATED A GOOD DEAL OF APPREHANSION ON THE PART OF YOUNG MEN WHO WANTED NOTHING TO DO WITH HADDAD. AL-ASSAD SAID IT WAS URGENT USG BRING PRESSURE TO BEAR ON ISRAELIS TO DISARM HADDAD AND TO STOP HIS RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN.

2. I SAID EVERYONE AGREED HADDAD AND CHIDDIAC WERE NUISANCES AND QUESTION WAS HOW TO BRING THEM UNDER CONTROL. THE ISRAELIS WERE RELEUCTANT TO DISARM THEM BECAUSE THEIR
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RELATIONS WITH THEIR NEIGHBORS WERE SO POOR. ASSAD ASKED WHAT WAS MEANT BY "NEIGHBORS". I SAID ISRAELIS SPOKE OF MOSLEMS, PRESUMABLY MEANING SHIA. ASSAD SAID IN THIS CASE THEY WERE LYING. THERE WAS NO PROBLEM IN RELATIONS BETWEEN SHIA AND CHRISTIANS IN SOUTH. PROBLEM WAS BETWEEN PALESTINIANS AND CHRISTIANS. THE ISRAELIS WERE TRYING TO KEEP HADDAD IN PLACE IN ORDER TO

GIVE THEM A PRETEXT FOR INTERFERING WHENEVER THEY
WANTED.
PARKER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Concepts: REFUGEES, REPATRIATION, ENLISTMENT, COMBAT OPERATIONS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions:
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION SS
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Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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